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Smart meter implementation in Klang Valley by 2023

Eight areas have been selected to initiate the implementation of AMI in the Klang Valley

by NUR HAZIQAH A MALEK

TENAGA Nasional Bhd (TNB) plans to implement the advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) in the Klang Valley from 2019-2023, spanning across two phases and involving about three million meters.

TNB AMI project director Ir Mohamed Ghous Ahmad said eight areas had been selected to initiate the implementation of AMI in the Klang Valley.

"In the Klang Valley itself, we have more or less three million customers, and it is easier for us to start on these eight areas with 1.2 million meters.

"The first 1.2 million smart meters fall within the second phase of Regulatory Period 2 (RP2), whereby the remaining of the three million users will be covered in the RP3 phase," he said at the media briefing on smart meter installation in Kuala Lumpur (KL) last Friday.

The eight areas in the RP2 Phase 2 of AMI implementation are Cheras/ Hulu Langat, Shah Alam, Rawang, Bandar Baru Bangi, Petaling Jaya, KL Barat, central KL, Putrajaya and Cyberjaya.

The AMI infrastructure architecture which uses smart meter allows for the device to communicate with the meter data management and head-end systems via the radio frequency mesh network.

During the pilot project in 2014 to 2016, 1,000 meters were deployed in



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Melaka and Putrajaya, followed by 300,000 households in Melaka during the RP2 Phase 1 from 2016 to 2018. Melaka was the only city that has adopted the Green City Action Plan.

The meters will be installed in Perak, Negri Sembilan, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Pahang and Terengganu, comprising four million meters under the AMI in RP4. The programme is planned between 2024 and 2026.

Mohamed Ghous said TNB is on

track to complete installation for 1.5 million households in the RP2 of both phases. The cost is RM1.2 billion. "Currently, customers have benefitted from the AMI implementation in Melaka," he said.

The system provides real-time energy consumption information, auto-billing and immediate supply connection. "Installation of a 20-metre radio frequency pole will be done at the TNB substation, followed by a let-

ter issuance prior to smart meter installation," he said.

Energy Commission industry operations director Ir Roslee Esman said the costs for the smart meter programme will be reduced with the introduction of new technologies.

"We are still using the older technology and the costs are higher. So, hopefully with the newer technology and the smart meter installation, it will be cheaper," he said.